

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-10 /059 W

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6895

INFO USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY RIYADH

/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 2795

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 0628

SECTO 456

DEPT PASS NSCE FOR NESSEN AND SCOWCROFT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: REMARKS OF DEFENSE MINISTER PERES AND

SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER DURING

THE EARLY MORNING OF MARCH 22, 1975

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE REMARKS OF ISRAELI DEFENSE
MINISTER SHIMON PERES AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A.
KISSINGER FOLLOWING A MEETING AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S
OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN AND ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAMS
DURING THE NIGHT OF MARCH 21 AND THE EARLY MORNING HOURS
OF MARCH 22, 1975 IN JERUSALEM:

2. DEFENSE MINISTER PERES: BEGIN QUOTE: WELL,
AS YOU KNOW, WE HAD AN IMPORTANT AND LONG CABINET
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MEETING THIS AFTERNOON. AFTERWARDS WE HAVE

REPORTED TO DR. KISSINGER ABOUT THE DELIBERATIONS
IN OUR CABINET SESSION AND WE WENT INTO GREAT
DETAILS ABOUT THE MANY AND COMPLICATED
PROBLEMS AHEAD OF US AND SINCE TODAY IS FRIDAY
NIGHT WE HAVE DECIDED TO CONTINUE TOMORROW.
I HOPE THE SECRETARY WILL REMAIN SO WE SHALL
BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE VERY SERIOUS MATTER IN
A RELAXED AND THOUGHTFUL WAY TOMORROW NIGHT.

3. Q: MR PERES, ARE THE TALKS DEADLOCKED?
HAVE YOU HIT A REALLY SERIOUS SNAG?

A: DEFENSE MINISTER PERES: I WOULD NOT LIKE
TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS AS LONG AS THEY GO
ON. LET US BE A LITTLE BIT PATIENT AND NOT
RUN AHEAD OF TIME, NEITHER WITH GUESSES NOR WITH
CONCLUSIONS.

4. Q: WHY THE SPECIAL SESSION TONIGHT, ON
FRIDAY NIGHT? A: PERES: BASICALLY, I BELIEVE
BECAUSE WE ARE A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY AND
DECISIONS ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE CABINET.

5. Q. COULD WE GET DR. KISSINGER'S ASSESSMENT?

A: SECRETARY KISSINGER: I AGREE WITH WHAT
THE DEFENSE MINISTER HAS SAID. WE REVIEWED
IN GREAT DETAIL ALL THE POINTS THAT ARE INVOLVED
IN A POTENTIAL AGREEMENT. WE THOUGHT
THAT BOTH SIDES WOULD BENEFIT FROM A DAY OF
THINKING OVER WHERE WE STAND, AND WE ARE GOING
TO MEET AGAIN TOMORROW EVENING AND CONTINUE
OUR DISCUSSIONS.

6. Q: SECRETARY KISSINGER, HOW DO YOU REACT
TO THESE TALES OF DEADLOCK? HOW WOULD YOU
CHARACTERIZE WHERE IT STANDS?

A: SECRETARY KISSINGER: I WOULD SAY THAT OVER
THE RECENT WEEK THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES
HAVE COME CLOSER TO EACH OTHER. BOTH SIDES HAVE
MADE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
THE CONSIDERATIONS OF THE OTHER, BUT A GAP
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REMAINS AND, OF COURSE, AS LONG AS A GAP REMAINS
THERE REMAINS A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE.

7. Q: ARE YOU GOING TO CONTINUE WITH THE WORK?
DO YOU PLAN TO KEEP GOING; KEEP GOING TO ASWAN;
KEEP UP THE SHUTTLE?

A: SECRETARY KISSINGER: I PLAN TO CONTINUE
THE SHUTTLE AS LONG AS I THINK THERE IS A

POSSIBILITY OF BRIDGING THE GAP.

8. Q: AND DO YOU THINK SO NOW, SIR?

A: SECRETARY KISSINGER: I THINK SO NOW AND
WE WILL CONTINUE OUR DISCUSSIONS TOMORROW.

9. DEFENSE MINISTER PERES: GOODNIGHT,
GENTLEMENT, GO AND HAVE A REST. END QUOTE.
KISSINGER

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